PRIMARY USE: To protect downstream areas from increased flooding, stream-channel degradation, and pollutant loads caused by urban development.

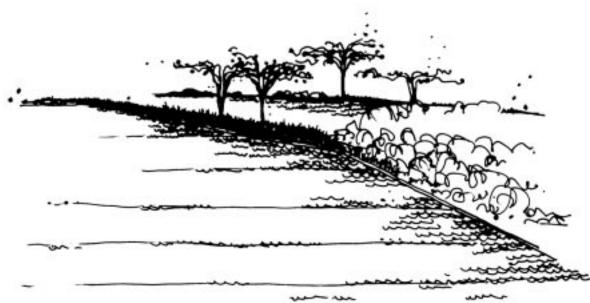
ADDITIONAL USES: The use of impervious parking areas or landscape islands as temporary impoundments during rainstorms.

PARKING LOT STORAGE

What is it? Parking lot storage provides temporary surface storage and controlled release of stormwater runoff on paved (impervious) parking areas or within parking lot planted islands. Parking lot storage reduces peak runoff from causing downstream damage.



Use parking lot storage for stormwater detention to reduce the adverse impact of runoff from impervious parking surfaces on receiving waters. Parking lot stormwater systems may be designed to temporarily detain stormwater in specially designated areas and release it at a controlled rate.



Parking Lot Storage Perspective View

Limitations

It is important that these facilities be designed to minimize potential safety hazards and inconvenience to motorists and pedestrians.

Materials

Raised storm sewer inlet placed in recessed planted areas.

Installation

Parking lot storage practices should be implemented in areas where portions of large, paved parking lots can be temporarily used for stormwater storage without significantly interfering with normal vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Shopping centers, large employee parking areas, and planted parking lot islands are suitable for the use of this measure.

Source: NRCS Planning and Design Manual, NRCS.